

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please replace on page 1, the second full paragraph as follows:**

Canonical topology for bandpass filters ~~are~~is known to provide general responses both symmetrical and asymmetrical, with the maximum number of finite zeros for a given number of resonators, thus allowing sharp selectivity and linear phase responses to be implemented.

**Please replace on page 1, paragraphs 5-8 as follows:**

A cylindrically shaped dielectric resonator is supported within each of the cavities. The wall between each of any two adjacent sequential cavities is provided with slots, namely ~~iris~~irises, to couple adjacent sequential and non-sequential adjacent resonators.

The filter housing supports a plurality of adjustable fins or probes extending into the ~~irises~~, one fin to each iris, to selectively adjust the size of the iris. Therefore, there are cavities having at least two couplings, namely in series when the coupled cavities are sequential and adjacent; in parallel or cross ~~coupling~~coupled when the coupled cavities are non-sequential and adjacent.

Different shaped probes are used to couple the cavities. Hence, a probe is positioned in the wall between at least two non-sequential adjacent cavities, one cavity in the first row and the other cavity in the second row thus cross coupling ~~said~~ two non-sequential cavities, the probe having opposite ends each of which extends in a direction generally parallel to the curvature of the cylindrically shaped resonators.

However, these known microwave ~~filter~~filters suffer from various disadvantages such as a distortion appearing in the response that leads to an asymmetric response. This distortion

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prevents the filter meeting the prescribed specifications of flat insertion losses and linear phase.

**Please replace on page 2, paragraphs 2-3 as follows:**

Diagonal cross couplings are difficult to ~~characterise~~characterize, manufacture and tune and they increase the mechanical complexity and number of elements of the filter, thus raising the cost of the filter.

Moreover, cross couplings between non-sequential adjacent cavities are very low in magnitude for high order filters, leading to a difficult electrical ~~characterisation~~characterization procedure, a complex manufacturing and tuning, and worse performances in temperature.

**Please replace on page 2, paragraph 7 as follows:**

By using this invention the distortions are ~~minimised~~minimized and no diagonal cross couplings are needed in order to implement a symmetrical response.